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**From:** Stoker, Michael B. [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DCB64B4E7EDF48AABE8EF43996A4652E-STOKER, MIC]  
**Sent:** 3/5/2019 9:59:30 PM  
**To:** roger@ccgga.org; samir.sheikh@valleyair.org  
**Subject:** FW: Email sent to you and Administrator Wheeler from Roger Isom

Fyi....Here is the email I sent to Bill Wehrum in response to your email.

Best regards,  
Michael Stoker  
Regional Administrator, Region 9, US-EPA

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

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**From:** Stoker, Michael B.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 6, 2019 4:59 PM  
**To:** Wheeler, Andrew <wheeler.andrew@epa.gov>; Wehrum, Bill <Wehrum.Bill@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Email sent to you and Administrator Wheeler from Roger Isom

Dear Bill,

I hope you are well. I'm following up with you on the email we both received from Roger Isom, the president of the *Western Agricultural Processors Association* and one of my regional constituents in the San Joaquin Valley, requesting EPA to reconsider the eligibility criteria under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) grant program. At issue is that in order to be eligible for DERA funding the project must include vehicles and equipment that are no older than certain model years. As I'm sure you can appreciate, the agricultural sector tends to use equipment for many years and often decades, well beyond the predicted useful life assumptions applied to our EPA mobile source models. My staff is currently working with Roger on their proposal looking for a viable path forward in the short term. However, we support re-evaluating the current DERA eligibility criteria for several sectors as we work towards the next cycle of DERA grant solicitations. Since the goal of the DERA program is to reduce emissions from old dirty legacy diesel vehicles and equipment, it seems appropriate to allow DERA funding for replacement of engines that are older than the current model year eligibility cut off. In the case outlined below, an update to the DERA eligibility criteria would provide essential support to Region 9's agricultural community, who are actively trying to advance significant emission reductions with cleaner zero emission equipment replacements. The San Joaquin Valley can use every bit of help in improving air quality, because as you know, the Valley has some of the worst air quality in the nation. Such an update to DERA will presumably help other farmers across the country who are also seeking to clean up their legacy fleets. While this request focuses on the agricultural sector, similar issues have been brought to our attention in other sectors as well.

I will be in D.C. the week of February 25 and would very much like to discuss this topic with you. My staff stand ready to help in any way we can to advance the success of the DERA program and improve air quality.  
Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Stoker  
EPA Regional Administrator-Region 9  
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